

Name: _____ Date: _____

***THE KITE RUNNER* LITERATURE CIRCLES**

After we read Khaled Hosseini's novel *The Kite Runner* we are going to participate in literature circle discussions. In groups of 4, each student will be responsible for creating 6-8 questions that they will use to guide a 60-minute seminar discussion. These questions will be based on one theme in the novel, and students will decide ahead of time which theme from the list below they will be responsible for, and on which date they will lead the discussion.

Students who are not leading the discussion must be present to participate in the discussion of their peers, and should take notes during the discussion to prepare for their essay assignment for this novel.

Students are also responsible for submitting their questions and a 3-4 page (double spaced) summary of the group discussion they lead. **IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO ATTEND CLASS REGULARLY IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN AND LEAD THESE DISCUSSIONS.** This write-up will be **due the class** after they lead their discussion.

Here are the topics for discussion:

- Literature Circle #1 – Tuesday, April 22 (summary due Wednesday, April 23):
 - Examine the Afghanistan of the novel as a dystopian society, and the characters as members of this dystopia. Use the characteristics of a dystopia that we've been discussing in class to guide your discussion.
- Literature Circle #2 – Friday, April 25 (summary due Monday, April 28):
 - Explore the idea of family and kinship within the novel, and the role that the familial connections between characters play in the decisions they make and thus the development of the plot.
- Literature Circle #3 – Friday, May 3 (summary due Monday, May 5):
 - Discuss the role of social class and ethnic tensions within the novel, and how this influences how the characters interact with each other. Explore how these divisions develop character and plot.
- Literature Circle #4 – Friday, May 9 (summary due Monday, May 12):
 - Think about the role and sphere of men and masculinity, and how this contrasts with the world of women and femininity throughout the novel. Explore how this gender divide influences the conflict/plot and characters in the novel.

Name: _____ Date: _____

The following rubric will be used to evaluate your questions and summary:

CRITERIA	LEVEL 0 (0-4 MARKS)	LEVEL 1 (5 MARKS)	LEVEL 2 (6 MARKS)	LEVEL 3 (7 MARKS)	LEVEL 4 (8-10 MARKS)
<u>Questions</u> Read and demonstrate an understanding of a variety of literary, informational, and graphic texts, using a range of strategies to construct meaning	Questions are not included in the submission, or do not demonstrate understanding of the theme and the novel, and are not designed to prompt discussion from group members	Questions demonstrate minimal understanding of the theme and the novel, and are rarely designed to prompt discussion from group members	Questions demonstrate some understanding of the theme and the novel, and are sometimes designed to prompt discussion from group members	Questions demonstrate an understanding of the theme and the novel, and are designed to prompt thoughtful discussion from group members	Questions demonstrate a thorough understanding of the theme and the novel, and are designed to effectively prompt deep and thoughtful discussion from group members
<u>Summary</u> Listen in order to understand and respond appropriately in a variety of situations for a variety of purposes	Summary is not submitted, is submitted but is partially complete, or is submitted but does not contain adequate commentary on the discussion that the student lead	Summary contains minimal commentary on the discussion that the student lead	Summary contains some commentary on the discussion that the student lead	Summary contains commentary on the discussion that the student lead	Summary contains thoughtful commentary on the discussion that the student lead
<u>Summary</u> Use editing, proofreading, and publishing skills and strategies, and knowledge of language conventions, to correct errors, refine expression, and present their work effectively	Summary is not submitted, or is far from the required length, is not in the required format, and contains many spelling and grammar errors	Summary is submitted and is far from the required length, is rarely in the required format, and contains several spelling and grammar errors	Summary is submitted and is almost the required length, is sometimes in the required format, and contains some spelling and grammar errors	Summary is submitted and the required length, is in the required format, and is almost free of spelling and grammar errors	Summary is submitted and the required length, is in the required format, and is virtually free of spelling and grammar errors

TOTAL: ____/30